

business taking us in the way they did. I feel that this is but one officer and there are others on the police force who feel the same. "Whose orders" were they taking??? Police Chief S. Haudedaull admitted with a red face, that they were wrong and he knew it, but he said, "that is what courts are for." The Chamber of Commerce is a medium to find out a person's financial status. They knew that as a factory worker with a family of six to support, we could not afford expensive court costs to uphold justice.

I do not dislike the various departments that I have mentioned, but it is a shame for so many good people who work for them, to have to be disgraced for the few who are disgraceful. Those officers involved in the raid and those who falsely arrested me, I could forgive, because I know that they were under orders from their superiors; but for the officer who beat my wife after first handcuffing her, he is a coward and does not even belong on the police force with the others. He also ordered my wife to scream, after first pushing her head to the floor of the squad car by putting pressure on the spot where he had previously beaten her. Then as the other officer started to roll up the car windows he told him not to, because he wanted every one to hear her. Then she was finally forced to scream for fear of further beatings. When she stopped screaming he would push her to the floor again and order her to again scream. Three times he did this on the two miles to the station. He deliberately held her in such a position that the metal handcuffs had to tighten thus making holes in her wrists, which left her with scars.

It is those authorities who do not have the mental capacity to control the power that they are entrusted with who are the mentally ill. Psychiatrists call this kind of illness paranoia.

The doctors would not commit themselves when I asked what type of mental illness my wife had. Perhaps it was because they knew that she actually wasn't mentally ill. Dr. Rettberg at last told me that it was schizophrenia. My wife never has in all of her life expressed dual personality. I feel that Dr. Rettberg wished to stay on the safe side with his commitment inasmuch as leading psychiatrists claim that 98% of all the people are schizophrenia. Because when we are happy we laugh, and when we are sad we cry, thus expressing a different personality. To give you an idea of how my wife felt and how she thinks, I will send you a copy of a letter that she sent to me while she was confined in the mental institution.

January 6, 1957

So the doctors of Winnebago have me locked up because of what they term schizophrenia. Schizophrenia is defined by the Websters New Collegiate Dictionary as a type of psychosis characterized by loss of contact with environment and by disintegration of personality. If this is so then why am I here?

If there is anyone with personality I have it. Did you ever hear of anything so silly as to lock up a young mother so that she can not properly care for her children?

I have been in this prison long enough. Loss of personality isn't sufficient reason to keep me here. I have personality so its about time that you send me home where I belong.

Signed Mrs. Tony Michetti

P.S. The only loss of contact with environment that I have is the fact that I have been locked up so that I can't go home to my family.

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The people have certainly lost their freedom when they can be confined for laughing or crying or expressing themselves as joyous or sad.

Sincerely,

Tony Michetti